

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 17145 311051Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
EA-12 FRB-01 INR-10 IO-14 NEA-11 NSAE-00 ICA-20
OPIC-06 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00
OMB-01 SS-15 XMB-04 AF-10 ARA-14 DOE-15 SOE-02
PA-02 L-03 /174 W
-----020235 010146Z /70

R 311044Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2324

UNCLAS PARIS 17145

USOECD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID
SUBJECT: 1977 U.S. FINANCIAL RESOURCE FLOWS TO THE
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

FEF: STATE 128689/1

1. IN NOTING POINTS RE U.S. FINANCIAL RESOURCE FLOWS
IN 1977 SET FORTH IN REFTEL, PARTICULARLY IN PARA 5,
IT IS OUR VIEW THAT YOU DO NOT EMPHASIZE SUFFICIENTLY
THE FACT THAT OUR ODA COMMITMENTS IN 1976-77 JUMPED BY
LARGE AMOUNTS. IN THE YEARS 1972-75, THE ANNUAL AVERAGE
OF THESE COMMITMENTS RAN AT \$4.2 BILLION; IN 1975 THE
VALUE WAS \$4.3 BILLION. BUT IN 1976 THEIR VALUE ROSE
TO \$7.1 BILLION, 65 PERCENT ABOVE THE 1975 LEVELS; IN
1977, ALTHOUGH THE VALUE OF ODA COMMITMENTS FELL TO
\$6.2 BILLION, IT WAS STILL 44 PERCENT ABOVE THE 1975
LEVEL. FOR THE TWO YEARS 1976-77, THE TOTAL VALUE OF
OUR AID COMMITMENTS WAS MORE THAN \$5 BILLION ABOVE THE
VALUE OF THOSE IN 1974-75.

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PAGE 02 PARIS 17145 311051Z

2. IN VIEW OF THE MAGNITUDE OF THIS GROWTH OF OUR
COMMITMENTS IN THESE TWO YEARS, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD
BE DESIRABLE TO TAKE A CAREFUL LOOK AT WHY ODA DIS-
BURSEMENTS IN 1977 NOT ONLY DID NOT RISE AT ALL, AS
ONE WOULD HAVE PREDICTED ON THE BASIS OF THE TREND IN
COMMITMENTS, BUT ACTUALLY FELL. SPECIFICALLY, WE WOULD
SUGGEST THAT THERE BE A SCANNING OF THE GROWTH IN THE

PIPELINE; THE INFORMATION FROM SUCH AN EXERCISE WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL BACKGROUND AS WE MOVE TO THE OECD MINISTERIAL MEETINGS AT WHICH ONE NAGGING QUESTION IN THE MINDS OF OTHER DELEGATIONS WILL BE WHY THE DECLINE IN OUR ODA. ALTHOUGH WE BELIEVE YOUR BASIC POINT IS CORRECT AS CONCERNS POSSIBLE RISES IN THE ODA/GNP RATIO, IT DOES SEEM THAT ONE MIGHT REASONABLY EXPECT A SIGNIFICANT ABSOLUTE RISE IN ODA DISBURSEMENTS OVER THE NEXT YEAR OR TWO.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, DEVELOPMENT FINANCE, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PARIS17145
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780228-0472
Format: TEL
From: PARIS USOECD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978053/aaaaacdj.tel
Line Count: 72
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 13930799-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2605916
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 1977 U.S. FINANCIAL RESOURCE FLOWS TO THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES FEF: STATE 128689/1
TAGS: EAID, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/13930799-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014